

Message Text

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41

ACTION OPIC-12

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FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5853

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, EIND, BC

DEPT PASS AGRICULTURE, COMMERCE, AND OPIC

SUBJ: AMBASSADOR'S REMARKS FOR OPIC LUNCHEON MEETING ON CATTLE
RANCHING IN BOTSWANA

REQUEST FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM AMBASSADOR BOLEN BE READ AT OPIC-
SPONSORED LUNCHEON TO BE HELD IN DALLAS EARLY OCTOBER FOR
POTENTIAL INVESTORS IN LARGE-SCALE CATTLE RANCHING. QUOTE:

1. I WAS DELIGHTED TO LEARN ABOUT THIS LUNCHEON MEETING IN THE
GREAT CITY OF DALLAS, TEXAS, BECAUSE ONE OF MY MAJOR OBJECTIVES
IN BOTSWANA IS TO EXPAND AMERICAN TRADE AND INVESTMENT.

2. AS THE PRESIDENT'S REPRESENTATIVE IN BOTSWANA, I WANT TO
ASSURE YOU AS POTENTIAL INVESTORS THAT OUR RELATIONS WITH THE
GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF BOTSWANA ARE WARM AND CORDIAL.
BOTSWANA'S STRONG DEDICATION TO DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES AND NON-
RACIALISM IS UNIQUE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA AND CONSTITUTES A FIRM
FOUNDATION FOR MOVING OUR RELATIONS TO NEW HEIGHTS IN YEARS TO
COME.

3. BOTSWANA DESERVES THE ATTENTION IT IS RECEIVING FROM YOU
TODAY, NOT ONLY BECAUSE OF THE BASIC VALUES WE SHARE IN COMMON
BUT ALSO BECAUSE OF ITS RICH NATURAL RESOURCES BASE AND ITS
POTENTIAL FOR BECOMING ONE OF THE RICHEST COUNTRIES IN BLACK

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AFRICA BY THE END OF THIS CENTURY.

4. I HAVE TOLD PRESIDENT SIR SERETSE KHAMA ABOUT THE GROWING INTEREST IN BOTSWANA AMONG AMERICAN BUSINESS CONCERNS AS REFLECTED IN THIS LUNCHEON MEETING. I AM CONFIDENT THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF BOTSWANA RECOGNIZES THE IMPORTANCE OF EXPANDING TRADE AND INVESTMENT AS A KEY FACTOR IN THE COUNTRY'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS I AM EQUALLY CONFIDENT THAT THE GOVERNMENT WILL STRIVE TO MAINTAIN A FAVORABLE INVESTMENT CLIMATE. THIS, COMBINED WITH A RICH NATURAL RESOURCE BASE, PRODUCES A MIX THAT IS HARD TO MATCH.

5. IT IS CLEAR TO ME ON THE SPOT HERE THAT ONE OF THE MOST EXCITING INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IS IN MODERN CATTLE RANCHING. AMBASSADOR DAMBE WILL UNDOUBTEDLY TELL YOU THAT THE BATSWANA PEOPLE ARE NATURAL CATTLE RAISERS. IT IS PART OF THEIR CULTURE. I KNOW THEY WILL FEEL "AT HOME ON THE RANGE" WITH YOU. IT IS INDEED MY HOPE, THEREFORE, THAT YOU WILL SHARPEN YOUR PENCILS AND THOROUGHLY EXAMINE MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL INVESTMENTS IN CATTLE RANCHING.

6. I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT THE ENTIRE EMBASSY STAFF STANDS READY TO ASSIST YOU AS DEDLOPMENTS PROCEED, A PERSONAL VISIT BY EACH OF YOU WOULD BE WELCOMED. UNQUOTE.
BOLEN

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